REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated November 27, 2001. Claims 23, 26 and 29 have been amended. New claim 30 has been added. Reconsideration of the objections and rejections contained in the Office Action is hereby requested.

Claim 26 was rejected under 35 USC 112 as being indefinite. This claim has now been amended to remove the indefinite language and thus the rejection has been overcome.

Claims 23, 24, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35 USC 103 over Woltz (USPN 5,995,597) in view of Minata (USPN 6,157,318) and Deo (USPN 5,973,612). Claim 25 was rejected under 35 USC 103 over Woltz in view of Minata, Deo and further in view of Tuoriniemi (USPN 5,978,689). Claim 26 was further rejected under 35 USC 103 over Woltz in view of Minata, Deo and further in view of Croft (USPN 6,078,826). And claim 29 was rejected under 35 USC 103 over Kaufman (USPN 6,034,621) in view of Deo. All of these rejections are traversed.

In attempting to make out the *prima facie* case of obviousness under 35 USC 103, the Office Action fails to account for the entirety of the claim language, and omits to deal with the argument presented by Applicants in the last Amendment (dated August 22, 2001), which clearly distinguishes the claimed invention from the Sharp reference (EP 772327) and Deo. Claims 23 and 29 have now been amended to more particularly point out an aspect of the claimed invention that is now shown in any of Woltz, Minata, Deo, Sharp, Tuoriniemi, Croft or Kaufman.

The claimed invention provides a method of AUTOMATIC data item characterization at a host system in which a plurality of data items are received by the host system, and are then AUTOMATICALLY characterized by the host system with respect to data item type and data item priority. After this AUTOMATIC characterization step, the host system then generates an e-mail message to be transmitted to a mobile device, the e-mail message including the data item, and also including the automatic characterization information in the form of a determined data item type and data item priority for the data item. This information is then used by the mobile device to determine which of a plurality of notification schemes to apply to the e-mail message by comparing the characterization information with stored information at the mobile device. This invention, as now claimed in claims 23, 29 and 30 is not disclosed or suggested by the references applied by the Office Action.

In rejecting claim 23, the Office Action asserts that "Woltz further teaches characterizing the data items at the host system according to data item type. . . and the data item priority." Not only is this statement wrong, it does not relate to the Claim language, which now states "characterizing the plurality of data items at the host system by the host system *automatically determining* a data item type and a data item priority for each of the received data items" and "generating an e-mail message for each of the received data items, wherein the e-mail message includes the received data item and a header that includes the data item type and the data item priority determined by the host system in the characterizing step." These two claim steps are not shown in Woltz. The part of Woltz relied on by the Office Action to show these steps merely

refers to a number of different types of messages, it says NOTHING about the host system "automatically determining" a data item type and data item priority for each of a plurality of data items or then "generating an e-mail message" that includes the data item and the determined data item type and data item priority.

The Office Action then refers to two other references that are not even used in making the 103 rejection (Eggleston and Sharp) for the proposition that "host computers receiving e-mail messages and other data items to forward to a mobile device, can characterize these messages and items according to type and priority." Again, the Office Action fails to consider the CLAIM language discussed above, and, in any event, is incorrect in its interpretation of Eggleston and Sharp, neither of which teach anything about a host system automatically characterizing received data items by type and priority and then generating an e-mail message that includes the data item AND the determined data item type and data item priority.

The portion of Eggleston relied on by the Office Action is discussing filtering of messages, not characterization, let alone automatic characterization by a host system. This reference therefore does not provide the missing teaching from Woltz with regard to the characterization and generation steps. Likewise, the portion of Sharp relied on by the Office Action is not discussing host characterization, but instead is discussing a forwarding signal FROM THE MOBILE DEVICE that includes a filter signal by urgency level. Here, the mobile device is requesting that only messages from a particular sender or of a particular urgency level should be transmitted from the host. This section has nothing whatsoever to do with the steps of automatic characterization at the host

and then generation of an e-mail message as described in amended claim 23. Thus Sharp does not provide the missing teaching from Woltz either.

Because the combination of Woltz, Sharp, Eggleston, Minata & Deo do not show the claimed steps of "automatic characterization" and "generation," the *prima facie* showing of obviousness under 35 USC 103 has not been met and therefore the rejection must be withdrawn.

Claims 24-28 depend from claim 23 and thus are also in condition for allowance. Claims 29 and 30 include similar limitations to claim 23 that are missing from the prior art of record and thus these claims are also in condition for allowance.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend the claims as follows:

23. (Amended) A method of replicating data items from a host system to a mobile data communication device, comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of data items at the host system, wherein the plurality of data items are transmitted to the host system from a plurality of remote systems;

characterizing the plurality of data items at the host system by the host system automatically determining a data item type and a data item priority for each of the received data items;

generating an e-mail message for each of the received data items, wherein the e-mail message includes the received data item[,] and a header that includes the data item type[,] and the data item priority determined by the host system in the characterizing step;

configuring a plurality of notification schemes at the mobile data communication device, wherein each of the plurality of notification schemes includes a plurality of notification fields that determine whether a particular notification scheme should be applied to a particular data item and an alert type, and wherein the plurality of notification fields [including] include a party specific field that identifies a person associated with the data item, a data item type field that identifies a type of the data item, and a data item priority field that identifies a priority ranking of the data item;

redirecting the e-mail messages from the host system to the mobile data communication device;

recovering the data items, the data item types and the data item priorities from the redirected e-mail messages at the mobile data communication device; and

applying the plurality of notification schemes to the redirected data items at the mobile data communication device by determining whether each data item and its characterized data item type and data item priority matches the party specific field, the data item type field and the data item priority field, respectively, of a particular notification scheme of the plurality of notification schemes, and if so, then enabling the alert type at the mobile data communication device for the particular notification scheme that matches the data item.

26. (Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising the steps of:

configuring the mobile data communication device into a low power state in which the mobile data communication device can receive messages [, but other functions are substantially disabled];

providing an emergency data item priority characterization;

redirecting a data item to the mobile data communication device in which the data item priority field is set to the emergency data item priority characterization;

receiving the data item at the mobile data communication device;

determining that the data item priority field is set to the emergency data item priority characterization, and in response, configuring the mobile data communication

device into a normal power state and immediately displaying the data item on the mobile data communication device.

29. (Amended) A method of redirecting e-mail messages and meeting notices from a host system to a mobile data communication device via a wireless network, comprising the steps of:

receiving e-mail messages and meeting notices from a plurality of remote systems at the host system;

generating a plurality of electronic envelopes at the host system, wherein the electronic envelopes include the received e-mail messages or the meeting notices;

the host system automatically generating characterization information regarding the electronic envelopes [at the host system], the characterization information including a data item type that indicates whether the electronic envelope contains an e-mail message or a meeting notice and data item priority ranking that indicates a priority of the e-mail message or meeting notice;

the host system appending the characterization information to the electronic envelopes and redirecting the electronic envelopes from the host system to the mobile data communication device via the wireless network;

receiving the electronic envelopes at the mobile data communication device;

extracting the characterization information from the electronic envelopes;

comparing the characterization information to a plurality of stored notification schemes at the mobile data communication device to determine whether to enable a

particular alert type associated with the notification scheme, wherein the notification scheme includes a user defined field for the data item type and the data item priority.

Please add the following new claim:

-- 30. (New) A method of automatically characterizing electronic data items at a messaging system prior to redirection to a wireless mobile communication device that applies a plurality of notification schemes to the characterized electronic data items, comprising the steps of:

receiving a plurality of data items at the messaging system;

the messaging system characterizing the plurality of data items by automatically determining a data item type and data item priority for each of the received plurality of data items;

the messaging system generating an e-mail message for each of the received data items that includes the data item and a header that includes the determined data item type and data item priority;

transmitting the e-mail messages from the messaging server to the wireless mobile communication device via a wireless gateway the couples the messaging server to a wireless data network;

receiving the e-mail messages at the wireless mobile communication device; and

the wireless mobile communication device automatically determining the type

and priority of each received data item by examining the header in the e-mail messages and comparing the data item type and data item priority information in the header to stored information in the wireless mobile communication device;

based on the comparison step, the wireless mobile communication device then applying one of a plurality of stored notification schemes to the received e-mail messages. --